



A banner week for Aruba's Postal Service

This past week the world has seen the observance of a number of special days, and Aruba's Postal Service has participated in the celebrations with new stamps, new uniforms and other special events.

"Fire Prevention Week" began on Sunday, October 8 with an open house at the fire station next to the airport. Jennifer Kock of Aruba's Philatelic Service took this opportunity to introduce three new stamps and a commemorative envelope that honors Aruba's *Brandweer*, their fire department. The three new stamps, in the amounts of sixty cents, one florin, and two florins five cents, are colorful, and beautifully illustrate the difficult task of firemen everywhere. The sixty-cent stamp emphasizes the causes of fires in the home, which is this year's theme for the week.

The festivities continued with World Post Day, which mark the anniversary of the founding of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) on October 9th, 1874 in the Swiss Capital of Bern. The UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969 declared it World Post Day. During Monday's celebration at the post office in Oranjestad, the postal service introduced cheerful and stylish new uniforms for the workers, both those that are in the office and in the field.

The workers were honored during a party that afternoon, and during the event the winners of the postal service's annual essay contest for Aruban youth that had been conducted over the previous month were announced and awarded. The subject of this year's essay was for the writer to present themselves as an animal whose habitat and survival were threatened, and then write a letter to the world pleading for assistance, and a suggestion as to how the problem might be remedied.

The first, second and third place winners were Arelis Heyer of the Colegio San Antonio, Raymarc Jansen of the Colegio Frere Bonifacius and Athenae Hill from Maria Collega M.A.V.O. Arelis Heyer won a trip to Switzerland for her and her parents to be present when her essay is judged in the international competition.

This was a very busy week for Aruba's Postal Service! Congratulations on your day, your new uniforms, new stamps, and to all the new contest winners!